

Only during the preceding days to the Invasion of Panama in '89 would I have been NOT surprised to see this: This is a Noriega-like attempt to FORCE a message upon a people who already have a distaste for the presidential incumbent.

Note that NOBODY forced us to spend \$10 to see Farenheit 9-11, yet Sinclair Broadcasting is forcing us to see an anti-Kerry documentary. I'm going to exercise my right as an American and voter to TURN OFF BROADCAST TV. During this broadcast, I'll watch Comedy Central or (guess what?) my new DVD of Farenheit 9-11!

Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.